AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An order accepting method comprising steps of:

indicating a menu image in a display panel for inputting ordering information to specify an order placed for a service provided by an associate; and

determining said ordering information in response to an input signal according to said menu image;

wherein said menu image includes plural regions for setting plural items included in said ordering information, said plural regions including:

a service selecting region for selecting one of plural services different from one another;

a common item specifying region for specifying a common item common between said services; and

a conditioning item setting region for retrieving a conditioning application according to said selected service, the conditioning application including a menu of selectable conditioning items and visual controls for setting a selected conditioning item for the common item,

wherein said common item remains specified while the menu image is changed from displaying one service to a different service upon selection of the different service.

2. (Original) An order accepting method as defined in claim 1, wherein said plural services are provided by plural associates.

3. (Original) An order accepting method as defined in claim 2, wherein said plural services are printing services for printing an image.

4. (Original) An order accepting method as defined in claim 3, wherein said ordering information is sent to one of said associates through a communication line, and said one associate is combined with a selected one of said plural services according to said ordering information.

5. (Original) An order accepting method as defined in claim 4, wherein said conditioning item setting region is preset individually between said plural associates.

6. (Original) An order accepting method as defined in claim 4, wherein said conditioning item includes information of a product type of a product according to said service, layout information of said image in said product, and/or information of an amount and/or cost of said product, and wherein said layout information includes information of a size of said product, disposition of said image, and/or a size of said image.

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7. (Original) An order accepting method as defined in claim 4, wherein said plural services include at least one of a service of developing photo film and printing said image, a reprinting service of said image, a printing service according to a template layout of plural images, an enlarging printing service of said image, a producing service of a booklet of plural images, a printing service of said image to a sheet, and a printing service of said image to an article.

8.   (Currently Amended) An order accepting apparatus comprising:

a display panel for indicating a menu image for inputting ordering information to specify an order placed for a service provided by an associate; ~~and~~

an input unit for inputting an input signal according to said menu image; and

a controller for determining said ordering information in response to said input signal;

wherein said menu image includes plural regions for setting plural items included in said ordering information, said plural regions including:

a service selecting region for selecting one of plural services different from one another;

a common item specifying region for specifying a common item common between said services; and

a conditioning item setting region for retrieving a conditioning application according to said selected service, the conditioning application including a menu of

selectable conditioning items and visual controls for setting a selected conditioning item

for the common item,

    wherein said common item remains specified while the menu image is changed

from displaying one service to a different service upon selection of the different service.

    9. (Original) An order accepting apparatus as defined in claim 8, wherein said

plural services are provided by plural associates.

    10. (Original) An order accepting apparatus as defined in claim 9, wherein said

plural services are printing services for printing an image.

    11. (Original) An order accepting apparatus as defined in claim 10, further

comprising a communication control unit for sending said ordering information to, or

receiving said ordering information from, one of said plural associates through a

communication line, said one associate being combined with a selected one of said

plural services.

    12. (Original) An order accepting apparatus as defined in claim 11, wherein said

conditioning item setting region is preset individually between said plural associates.

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13. (Original) An order accepting apparatus as defined in claim 11, wherein said conditioning item includes information of a product type of a product according to said service, layout information of said image in said product, and/or information of an amount and/or cost of said product, and wherein said layout information includes information of a size of said product, disposition of said image, and/or a size of said image.

14. (Original) An order accepting apparatus as defined in claim 11, wherein said service selecting region and said conditioning item setting region are arranged horizontally to one another.

15. (Original) An order accepting apparatus as defined in claim 11, wherein said common item specifying region is disposed under at least one of said service selecting region and said conditioning item setting region.

16. (Original) An order accepting apparatus as defined in claim 11, wherein said plural services include at least one of a service of developing photo film and printing said image, a reprinting service of said image, a printing service according to a template layout of plural images, an enlarging printing service of said image, a producing service of a booklet of plural images, a printing service of said image to a sheet, and a printing service of said image to an article.

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17. (Currently Amended)   A storage medium for storing an order accepting

program, said order accepting program executing a step of indicating a menu image in a

display panel for inputting ordering information to specify an order placed for a service

provided by an associate, and a step of determining said ordering information in

response to an input signal according to said menu image, said menu image indicated

by execution of the order accepting program including plural regions for setting plural

items included in said ordering information, said plural regions including:

a service selecting region for selecting one of plural services different from

one another;

a common item specifying region for specifying a common item common

between said services; and

a conditioning item setting region for retrieving a conditioning application

according to said selected service, the conditioning application including a menu of

selectable conditioning items and visual controls for setting a selected conditioning item

for the common item,

wherein said common item remains specified while the menu image is changed

from displaying one service to a different service upon selection of the different service.

18.   (Original) A storage medium as defined in claim 17, wherein said plural

services are provided by plural associates.

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19.   (Original) A storage medium as defined in claim 18, wherein said plural

services are printing services for printing an image.

20. (Original) A storage medium as defined in claim 19, further

wherein said order accepting program further executes a step of sending said

ordering information to, or receiving said ordering information from, one of said plural

associates through a communication line, said one associate being combined with a

selected one of said plural services.

21.   (Original) A storage medium as defined in claim 20, wherein said

conditioning item setting region is preset individually between said plural associates.

22. (New) An order accepting apparatus comprising:

a display panel for indicating an order accepting interface image for inputting

ordering information to specify an order placed for a service provided by an associate;

an input unit for inputting an input signal according to said interface image; and

a controller for determining said ordering information in response to said input

signal;

wherein said interface image is displayed as a plurality of separate regions for

setting plural items included in said ordering information, said plural regions including:

a service selecting region for displaying a list of plural services different from one another and selecting a service from the list, said plural services in the group consisting of photofinishing, reprinting, multi-image template, enlargement, album production, cup printing, t-shirt printing;

a common item specifying region for displaying a plurality of common items common between said services and specifying at least one common item; and

a conditioning item setting region displaying a work area having a conditioning application corresponding to said selected service, the conditioning application providing a menu of selectable conditioning items and visual controls for setting selected conditioning items for the specified at least one common item,

wherein said at least one common item remains specified while the interface image is changed from displaying one service to a different service upon selection of the different service.